

From: J. Cashwell
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 6:40pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom this Concerns,

My personal opinion of the suit against Microsoft is that it should have never happened! As a consumer I have a choice to buy or not to buy a company's product. I have a lot of Microsoft software and until another company can prove to me that their software is superior to Microsoft's and easier to integrate and use, I will continue to use Microsoft products. Microsoft has an overwhelming following and thus market share because they produce and support a superior product. I have tried the "competitions" software and was not impressed when compared to Microsoft software. If a company wants a hefty chunk of the market and has to compete with an industry leader then they better make a product that is far superior and more affordable than the industry leader's product until they have unseated the leader and afterwards they had better keep the standards up. The "bundled" software did not force me to use anything I didn't want to use. I could install and run another companies software if I felt the need. If anything, the bundled software was more convenient to me as a consumer. I believe there are a few bottoms that need spanking for starting this mess to begin with and Microsoft is not one of them. It reminds me of the spoiled kid on the playground running to Mom crying because little Johnny is faster and smarter when playing tag. In this case, Mom (the government) should have never gotten involved and should have left it up to the kids (the companies) and their friends (the consumers) to work it out on the playground. This country was built to support free enterprise and now we have a major step towards the government having too much control where it doesn't belong. Give the consumer credit! If we don't like something, we aren't going to support/buy the company's products. I won't even get into the fact that there have been so many technological advancements since this suit started. I'm in favor of no action against Microsoft, but since that is an unrealistic expectation, I'm in favor of extreme leniency in terms of a settlement with Microsoft and therefore consider what is tabled to be the strongest action that should be exercised against Microsoft.

Respectfully,
Judy Cashwell